UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/715,989	11/17/2000	Tatsushi Noda	SONYJP072CONT	6679

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LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,
KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK
600 SOUTH AVENUE WEST
WESTFIELD, NJ 07090

EXAMINER
MEW, KEVIN D

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *17 November 2000*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-36* is/are pending in the application.

  4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-14,16,19,20,23,26,27,29,30,32,33 and 35* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *15,18,21,22,24,25,28,31,34 and 36* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *17 November 2000* is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

  Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

  Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

  a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

  1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

  2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

  3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

  * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *4, 8, & 9*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

Drawings

1.   The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because

they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: reference

numeral 22 in Fig. 1. A proposed drawing correction, corrected drawings, or amendment

to the specification to add the reference sign(s) in the description, are required in reply to

the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings

will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2.   Reference character "33C" is mistyped as reference character "33" in line 11 of

paragraph "[0051]" on page 10. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by
another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted
on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant
for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall
have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the
international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such
treaty in the English language.

3.   **Claims 1-14, 16, 19-20, 23, 26-27, 29-30, 32-33, 35** are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Takashimizu et al (US Publication 2002/0159485).

Regarding claims 1 & 4, Takashimizu discloses a separating device (**a digital broadcasting signal receiving apparatus**, see lines 3-4, paragraph 0006) to perform the method of separating/extracting program data of one or more specified desired programs from one or more data streams (**first demultiplexer selects a desired program from the multiplexed program**, see lines 9-10, paragraph 0033) formed of plural program data multiplexed per a fixed unit (**a plurality of programs can be multiplexed on a radio wave in the digital broadcasting system**, see lines 4-7, paragraph 0033), comprising:

selecting means (**tuner/channel decoder**) for receiving said one or more data streams and for selecting at least part of said one or more data streams (**tuner selects a desired signal from the input signal**, see lines 5-8, paragraph 0032, and element 401, Fig. 1); and

separating/extracting means (**first packet separating apparatus**) for separating/extracting program data of said one or more specified desired programs from said at least part of said one or more data streams (**first packet separating apparatus for extracting a designated packet from a bit stream outputted from the channel decoding means**, see lines 11-13, paragraph 0006).

Regarding claims 2 & 5, Takashimizu discloses the separating device to perform the method according to Claim 4, further comprising:

multiplexing means (**packet inserting means**, see element 453, Fig. 10) for multiplexing said at least part of said one or more data streams or program data of said one or more specified desired programs (**forms a packet into which the PIDs such as the video and audio acquired to form a multiplexed signal to be recorded in the**

recording/reproducing means, see lines 12-14, paragraph 0054, lines 1-10, and

paragraph 0057 and Fig. 10) to be sent out from said separating/extracting means (**first**

packet separating apparatus, see element 404, Fig. 10).

Regarding claims 3 & 6, Takashimizu discloses the separating device to perform

the method according to Claim 4, wherein:

said one or more data streams are formed of said plural program data packetized

and multiplexed per said fixed unit (**digital transfer information at the digital**

broadcasting signal receiving apparatus are being produced by a plurality of logical

channel signals constituted by video and audio, and data are multiplexed as digital

information on a single bit stream having a predetermined packet format, see lines

3-11, paragraph 0006); and

said separating/extracting means outputs program data of said one or more

specified desired programs separated and extracted as packetized data (**first packet**

separating apparatus for extracting a designated packet from a bit stream outputted

from the channel decoding means, see lines 11-13, paragraph 0006).

Regarding claims 7 & 10, Takashimizu discloses a signal receiving device (**a**

digital broadcasting signal receiving apparatus, see lines 3-4, paragraph 0006) to

perform the method for receiving one or more data streams formed of program data of

plural programs multiplexed per a fixed unit (**a plurality of programs can be**

multiplexed on a radio wave in the digital broadcasting system, see lines 4-7,

paragraph 0033), said data streams being transmitted as individual data streams or as part

of a transmission signal including said individual data streams (**digital transfer**

information being produced by that a plurality of logical channel signals constituted

by video, audio and data are multiplexed as digital information on a single bit

stream, see lines 7-10, paragraph 0006), the signal receiving device comprising:

selecting means (**tuner/channel decoder**) for inputting said data streams said data

streams being transmitted as individual data streams or as part of a transmission signal

including said individual data streams, and for selecting at least a part of said input data

streams (**tuner selects a desired signal from the input signal**, see lines 5-8, paragraph

0032, and element 401, Fig. 1);

separating/extracting means for separating/extracting said program data of one or

more specified programs included in said selected data streams (**first packet separating**

apparatus for extracting a designated packet from a bit stream outputted from the

channel decoding means, see lines 11-13, paragraph 0006); and

decoding means (**MPEG2 decoder**, see element 405, Fig. 10 and element 507,

Fig, 15) for decoding said program data separated/extracted by said separating/extracting

means (**MPEG2 decoder receives a digital signal separated by the first packet**

separating apparatus and decompresses the compressed digital signal to reproduce

both a digital video signal before being compressed and a digital audio signal before

being compressed, see lines 10-15, paragraph 0064).

Regarding claims 8 & 11, Takashimizu discloses the signal receiving device to

perform the method according to Claim 7, further comprising:

multiplexing means (**packet inserting means**, see element 453, Fig. 10) for

multiplexing each of said data streams selected by said selecting means or said program

data of said one or more specified programs (**forms a packet into which the PIDs such**

as the video and audio acquired to form a multiplexed signal to be recorded in the

recording/reproducing means, see lines 12-14, paragraph 0054, lines 1-10, paragraph

0057 and Fig. 10) to be sent out from said separating/extracting means (**first packet**

separating apparatus, see element 404, Fig. 10).

Regarding claims 9 & 12, Takashimizu discloses the signal receiving device to

perform the method according to Claim 7, wherein:

said one or more data streams are formed of said program data packetized and

multiplexed per the fixed unit (**digital transfer information at the digital broadcasting**

signal receiving apparatus are being produced by a plurality of logical channel

signals constituted by video and audio, and data are multiplexed as digital

information on a single bit stream having a predetermined packet format, see lines

3-11, paragraph 0006); and

said separating/extracting means outputs program data of said one or more

specified programs separated/extracted as packetized data (**first packet separating**

apparatus for extracting a designated packet from a bit stream outputted from the

channel decoding means, see lines 11-13, paragraph 0006).

Regarding claim 13, Takashimizu discloses an apparatus for receiving, separating

and decoding a data stream, comprising:

a receiver (**a digital broadcasting signal receiving apparatus,** see lines 3-4,

paragraph 0006) operable to produce an initial data stream (**digital transfer**

information) containing multiplexed data packets representing a plurality of data

programs from at least one signal received over a communication channel (**digital**

transfer information being produced by that a plurality of logical channel signals

constituted by video, audio and data are multiplexed as digital information on a

single bit stream, see lines 7-10, paragraph 0006);

a separating device (**first packet separating apparatus**) operable to produce an

intermediate data stream containing multiplexed data packets representing one or more

selected ones of the data programs chosen from the initial data stream (**first packet**

separating apparatus for extracting a designated packet from a bit stream outputted

from the channel decoding means, see lines 11-13, paragraph 0006); and

a decode processor (**MPEG2 decoder,** see element 405, Fig. 10 and element 507,

Fig, 15) operable to decode the intermediate data stream such that the multiplexed data

packets representing the selected data programs are associated with one another (**MPEG2**

decoder receives a digital signal separated by the first packet separating apparatus

and decompresses the compressed digital signal to reproduce both a digital video

signal before being compressed and a digital audio signal before being compressed,

see lines 10-15, paragraph 0064).

Regarding claim 14, Takashimizu discloses the apparatus of claim 13, wherein the

separating device includes:

a multiplexer (**packet inserting means**, see element 453, Fig. 10) operable to

produce a multiplexed data stream including the initial data stream (**forms a packet into**

which the PIDs such as the video and audio acquired to form a multiplexed signal to

be recorded in the recording/reproducing means, see lines 12-14, paragraph 0054, and

lines 1-10, paragraph 0057 and element 453, Fig. 10); and

a separator (**first demultiplexer**) operable to extract the selected data programs

from the multiplexed data stream (**first demultiplexer for extracting a packet having**

the same PID as that of that Program Association Table (PAT), see lines 29-36,

paragraph 0054, and element 404, Fig. 10).

Regarding claims 16 & 19, Takashimizu discloses the apparatus of claim 14,

wherein the decode processor (**MPEG2 decoder**) includes:

a video decode processor (**MPEG2 decoder**, see element 405, Fig. 10 and

element 507, Fig, 15) operable to decode a video portion of the intermediate data stream

corresponding to the selected data programs and to generate resultant video data

(**MPEG2 decoder receives a digital signal separated by the first packet separating**

apparatus and decompresses the compressed digital signal to reproduce a digital

video signal before being compressed, see lines 10-15, paragraph 0064);

an audio decode processor (**MPEG2 decoder**, see element 405, Fig. 10 and

element 507, Fig, 15) operable to decode an audio portion of the intermediate data stream

corresponding to the selected data programs and to generate resultant audio data

(**MPEG2 decoder receives a digital signal separated by the first packet separating**

apparatus and decompresses the compressed digital signal to reproduce a digital audio signal before being compressed, see lines 10-15, paragraph 0064);

a display generator (**the video encoder**) operable to process the resultant video data for multi-screen displaying (the video encoder converts the entered digital video signal into an analog video signal which will then be outputted to the television set, see lines 18-20, paragraph 0033); and

an audio generator (**D/A converter**) operable to process the resultant audio data for playing (**the D/A converter converts the inputted digital audio signal into an analog audio signal which will then be outputted to the television set**, see lines 21-23, paragraph 0033).

Regarding claim 17, Takashimizu discloses the apparatus of claim 13, wherein the separating device includes:

a separator (**first packet separating apparatus**) operable to extract the selected data programs from the initial data stream (**first packet separating apparatus for extracting a designated packet from a bit stream outputted from the channel decoding means**, see lines 11-13, paragraph 0006); and

a multiplexer (**packet inserting means**, see element 453, Fig. 10) operable to produce a multiplexed data stream including each of the selected data programs extracted by the separator (**forms a packet into which the PIDs such as the video and audio acquired to form a multiplexed signal to be recorded in the recording/reproducing means**, see lines 12-14, paragraph 0054, and lines 1-10, paragraph 0057 and Fig. 10).

Regarding claim 20, Takashimizu discloses an apparatus for inputting an initial

data stream containing multiplexed data packets representing a plurality of data programs

received over a communication channel (**digital transfer information being produced**

by that a plurality of logical channel signals constituted by video, audio and data are

multiplexed as digital information on a single bit stream, see lines 7-10, paragraph

0006) and for producing an intermediate data stream including one or more selected data

programs (**first packet separating apparatus for extracting a designated packet from**

a bit stream outputted from the channel decoding means, see lines 11-13, paragraph

0006), the apparatus comprising:

a multiplexer (**packet inserting means**, see element 453, Fig. 10) operable to

produce a multiplexed data stream including the initial data stream and the one or more

selected data programs (**forms a packet into which the PIDs such as the video and**

audio acquired to form a multiplexed signal to be recorded in the

recording/reproducing means, see lines 12-14, paragraph 0054, and lines 1-10,

paragraph 0057 and element 453, Fig. 10); and

a separator (**first demultiplexer**, see element 404, Fig. 10) operable to extract the

selected data programs from the multiplexed data stream (**first demultiplexer for**

extracting a packet having the same PID as that of that Program Association Table

(PAT), see lines 29-36, paragraph 0054, and element 404, Fig. 10).

Regarding claim 23, Takashimizu discloses an apparatus (**a digital broadcasting**

signal receiving apparatus, see lines 3-4, paragraph 0006) for inputting an initial data

stream containing multiplexed data packets representing a plurality of data programs

received over a communication channel (**a plurality of programs can be multiplexed on a radio wave in the digital broadcasting system**, see lines 4-7, paragraph 0033) and for producing an intermediate data stream including one or more selected ones of the data programs (**digital transfer information being produced by that a plurality of logical channel signals constituted by video, audio and data are multiplexed as digital information on a single bit stream**, see lines 7-10, paragraph 0006), the apparatus comprising:

a separator (**first packet separating apparatus**) operable to extract each of the selected data programs from the initial data stream (**first packet separating apparatus for extracting a designated packet from a bit stream outputted from the channel decoding means**, see lines 11-13, paragraph 0006); and

a multiplexer (**packet inserting means**, see element 453, Fig. 10) operable to produce a multiplexed data stream including the selected data programs extracted by the separator (**forms a packet into which the PIDs such as the video and audio acquired to form a multiplexed signal to be recorded in the recording/reproducing means**, see lines 12-14, paragraph 0054, and lines 1-10, paragraph 0057 and Fig. 10).

Regarding claim 26, Takashimizu discloses a method for decoding packet data, comprising.

producing at least one initial data stream containing multiplexed data packets (**digital transfer information being produced by that a plurality of logical channel signals constituted by video, audio and data are multiplexed as digital information on a single bit stream**, see lines 7-10, paragraph 0006), the multiplexed data packets

representing a plurality of data programs from at least one signal received over at least

one communication channel (**a plurality of programs can be multiplexed on a radio**

wave in the digital broadcasting system, see lines 4-7, paragraph 0033);

producing at least one intermediate data stream containing selected multiplexed

data packets representing one or more selected ones of the data programs chosen from the

at least one initial data stream (**first packet separating apparatus for extracting a**

designated packet from a bit stream outputted from the channel decoding means,

see lines 11-13, paragraph 0006); and

decoding the at least one intermediate data stream such that the selected

multiplexed data packets representing each of the one or more selected data programs are

associated with one another (**MPEG2 decoder receives a digital signal separated by**

the first packet separating apparatus and decompresses the compressed digital

signal to reproduce both a digital video signal before being compressed and a digital

audio signal before being compressed, see lines 10-15, paragraph 0064).

Regarding claim 27, Takashimizu discloses the method of claim 26, wherein the

step of producing the at least one intermediate data stream includes:

multiplexing each of the initial data streams onto a multiplexed data stream

(**packet inserting means forms a packet into which the PIDs such as the video and**

audio acquired to form a multiplexed signal to be recorded in the

recording/reproducing means, see lines 12-14, paragraph 0054, and lines 1-10,

paragraph 0057 and element 453, Fig. 10); and

separating each of the selected data programs from the multiplexed data stream

(first demultiplexer for extracting a packet having the same PID as that of that

Program Association Table (PAT), see lines 29-36, paragraph 0054, and element 404,

Fig. 10).

Regarding claims 29 & 32, Takashimizu discloses the method of claim 27,

wherein the step of decoding the at least one intermediate data stream includes:

decoding a video portion of the at least one intermediate data stream

corresponding to the one or more selected data programs (**MPEG2 decoder receives a**

digital signal separated by the first packet separating apparatus and decompresses

the compressed digital signal to reproduce a digital video signal before being

compressed, see lines 10-15, paragraph 0064); and

decoding an audio portion of the at least one intermediate data stream

corresponding to the one or more selected data programs (**MPEG2 decoder receives a**

digital signal separated by the first packet separating apparatus and decompresses

the compressed digital signal to reproduce a digital audio signal before being

compressed, see lines 10-15, paragraph 0064).

Regarding claim 30, Takashimizu discloses the method of claim 26, wherein the

step of producing the at least one intermediate data stream includes:

separating each of the selected data programs from the at least one initial data

stream (**first packet separating apparatus for extracting a designated packet from a**

bit stream outputted from the channel decoding means, see lines 11-13, paragraph

0006); and

multiplexing each of the selected data programs onto a multiplexed data stream

(**packet inserting means forms a packet into which the PIDs such as the video and**

audio acquired to form a multiplexed signal to be recorded in the

recording/reproducing means, see lines 12-14, paragraph 0054, and lines 1-10,

paragraph 0057 and element 453, Fig. 10).

Regarding claim 33, Takashimizu discloses a method of producing at least one

intermediate a data stream from at least one initial data stream containing multiplexed

data packets (**digital transfer information being produced by that a plurality of**

logical channel signals constituted by video, audio and data are multiplexed as

digital information on a single bit stream, see lines 7-10, paragraph 0006) representing

a plurality of data programs received over at least one communication channel (**a**

plurality of programs can be multiplexed on a radio wave in the digital broadcasting

system, see lines 4-7, paragraph 0033), wherein the intermediate data stream includes

one or more selected ones of the data programs, the method comprising:

multiplexing the at least one initial data stream onto a multiplexed data stream

(**packet inserting means forms a packet into which the PIDs such as the video and**

audio acquired to form a multiplexed signal to be recorded in the

recording/reproducing means, see lines 12-14, paragraph 0054, and lines 1-10,

paragraph 0057 and element 453, Fig. 10); and

separating each of the selected data programs from the multiplexed data stream

(first demultiplexer for extracting a packet having the same PID as that of that

Program Association Table (PAT), see lines 29-36, paragraph 0054, and element 404,

Fig. 10).

Regarding claim 35, Takashimizu discloses a method of producing at least one

intermediate data stream from at least one initial data stream containing multiplexed data

packets (**digital transfer information being produced by that a plurality of logical**

channel signals constituted by video, audio and data are multiplexed as digital

information on a single bit stream, see lines 7-10, paragraph 0006) representing a

plurality of data programs received over at least one communication channel (**a plurality**

of programs can be multiplexed on a radio wave in the digital broadcasting system,

see lines 4-7, paragraph 0033), wherein the intermediate data stream includes one or

more selected ones of the data programs, the method comprising:

separating each of the selected data programs from the at least one initial data

stream (**first packet separating apparatus for extracting a designated packet from a**

bit stream outputted from the channel decoding means, see lines 11-13, paragraph

0006); and

multiplexing each of the selected data programs onto a multiplexed data stream

(**packet inserting means forms a packet into which the PIDs such as the video and**

audio acquired to form a multiplexed signal to be recorded in the

recording/reproducing means, see lines 12-14, paragraph 0054, and lines 1-10,

paragraph 0057 and element 453, Fig. 10).

Allowable Subject Matter

4.   **Claims 15, 18, 21-22, 24-25, 28, 31, 34, 36** are objected to as being dependent

upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form

including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject

matter:

In claim 15, the separating device includes an interchange unit operable to change

the original packet identifier of a first multiplexed data packet to a unique packet

identifier when the original packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet is

identical to the original packet identifier of a second multiplexed data packet, and to

rewrite the unique packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet back to the

original packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet prior to the separating

device producing the intermediate data stream.

In claim 18, the separating device includes an interchange unit operable to change

the original packet identifier of a first multiplexed data packet to a unique packet

identifier when the original packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet is

identical to the original packet identifier of a second multiplexed data packet, and to

rewrite the unique packet

identifier of the first multiplexed data packet back to the original packet identifier

of the first multiplexed data packet prior to the separating device producing the

intermediate data stream.

In claim 21, an interchange unit operable to change the original packet identifier

of a first multiplexed data packet to a unique packet identifier when the original packet

identifier of the first multiplexed data packet is identical to the original packet identifier of a second multiplexed data packet, and to rewrite the unique packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet back to the original packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet prior to the separating device producing the intermediate data stream.

In claim 24, an interchange unit operable to change the original packet identifier of a first multiplexed data packet to a unique packet identifier when the original packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet is identical to the original packet identifier of a second multiplexed data packet, and to rewrite the unique packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet back to the original packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet prior to the separating device producing the intermediate data stream.

In claim 28, changing the original packet identifier of a first multiplexed data packet to a unique packet identifier when the original packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet is identical to the original packet identifier of a second multiplexed data packet; and

rewriting the unique packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet back to the original packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet prior to producing the at least one intermediate data stream.

In claim 31, changing the original packet identifier of a first multiplexed data packet to a unique packet identifier when the original packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet is identical to the original packet identifier of a second multiplexed data packet; and

rewriting the unique packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet back to the original packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet prior to producing the at least one intermediate data stream.

In claim 34, changing the original packet identifier of a first multiplexed data packet to a unique packet identifier when the original packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet is identical to the original packet identifier of a second multiplexed data packet; and

rewriting the unique packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet back to the original packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet prior to producing the at least one intermediate data stream.

In claim 36, changing the original packet identifier of a first multiplexed data packet to a unique packet identifier when the original packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet is identical to the original packet identifier of a second multiplexed data packet; and

rewriting the unique packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet back to the original packet identifier of the first multiplexed data packet prior to producing the at least one intermediate data stream.

Conclusion

5.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure with respect to separating device and method and signal receiving

device and method in a digital broadcasting system.

US Patent 6,249,532 to Yoshikawa et al.

US Patent 6,609,251 to Yoneda

US Patent 6,335,763 to Nishio et al.

US Patent 6,002,694 to Yoshizawa et al.

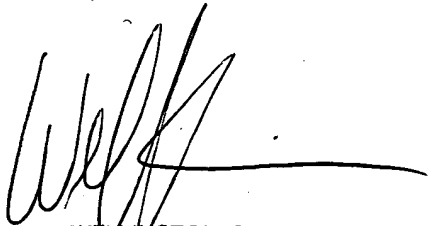US Publication 2001/0052126 to Nanki et al.

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Kevin Mew whose telephone number is 703-305-5300.

The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 am - 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Wellington Chin can be reached on 703-305-4366. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status

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more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you

have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business

Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

WELLINGTON CHIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

KDM
Art Unit 2664